

FORTY TRAILERS AVAILABLE FOR USE OF VETERANS; NEW HOUSING PROGRAM REQUESTED

Forty trailers of those in Lumina Park, Western ave. north of 203rd st., have been found suitable for occupancy at this time and have been released for use of veterans.

This was revealed yesterday by J. G. Caldwell, executive secretary of the Torrance Area Veterans Affairs Committee with offices at 2300 Carson st.

Many others may be put in shape for occupancy after renovation and fumigation, it was said.

Conditions in some of the trailers were deplorable, investigation revealed, even to the extent of finding bed bugs, unusual in California.

Those allowed to be used by veterans and their families are "spick and span" according to Caldwell.

"Housing is one of the most serious problems induced by the return of veterans," Caldwell said. "Not only are we finding it necessary to take care of our own local boys and their families, but the additional men being discharged here, residing in other states, who decide to stay in California." This amounts to nearly 20 per cent of those from other states being discharged at Southern California separation centers.

Caldwell expressed his appreciation to the Torrance Lions club and to veterans organizations and other groups who assisted in securing the release of the trailers, brought here for war workers, for use of veterans and their families.

He said that he will enlist the aid of the State Housing Commission and welfare board in attempting to work out a program here whereby veterans can use their funds and loans under the provisions of the G. I. Bill of Rights to build low cost homes.

"There are many vacant lots around, and I think that the veterans should be encouraged and helped in building homes," Caldwell declared. "This not only will help the veteran but the community as well."

While the situation in Torrance is acute, as far as veterans' housing is concerned, the condition in Los Angeles is critical, Caldwell said.

DONALD ELLWOOD

Donald Ross Ellwood, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Ellwood, of 1417 Marcelina ave., has arrived following 42 months overseas duty. En route home from the South Pacific the young veteran received his honorable discharge at Camp Beale, Cpl. Ellwood served with a Quartermaster Corps, in Australia, New Guinea and Bialk.

'Shack Town' In Strip Near Torrance Draws Criticism; Action In Offing

The problem of elimination of sub-standard housing in the Los Angeles shoe-stripping strip, which threatens to depreciate some Torrance property values, may be laid before the State Housing Commission it was revealed here this week following the announcement by the commission meeting Saturday in Santa Barbara that it will take steps to do away with "shack towns."

While the trailer camp north of 203rd st., on Western ave., has come in for criticism for fear that it might be maintained there long after it is needed, few Torrance people realize the condition of housing in the strip east of Western ave. and just north of Ocean st., it was pointed out.

Here, families are dwelling in tents, tent houses, boxboard

Local Woman Injured In Auto Collision

In a two car collision at 104th st. and Prairie ave., Mrs. Jane Adams, 62, 1546 W. 213th st., suffered serious injuries while a passenger in a car driven by Mrs. Rosamond Poer, 1561 W. 213th st., also injured.

The driver of the other car involved, Bobby Bergamo, 18, 126 W. 140th st., Hawthorne, received contusions and abrasions in the accident, according to sheriff's deputies, and was given first aid at the South West Industrial hospital.

Mrs. Adams sustained lacerations, shock and broken ribs. She was reported to have been taken to the S. W. Industrial hospital and later removed to the Torrance Memorial hospital, where her condition was said to be improved.

Sheriff's reports indicate that the collision occurred during the mid-morning rain Tuesday and blame had not yet been fixed in the accident. Both cars were said to be badly damaged.

Two Factories Acquire Land In Torrance

Two new factories soon will open in Torrance, as the result of the sale and lease by I. A. Larrance of a portion of property on Border ave., just south of 218th st.

Seely & McDonald, glass manufacturers, leased the old building and about an acre of ground adjoining Larrance's Torrance Van & Storage Co. warehouse on Border ave.

The firm, which has an experimental laboratory in Compton, will manufacture a special kind of glass for an eastern firm. About 25 persons will be employed in the new factory.

The area was leased for 10 years for a total rental of about \$12,000, according to Bob Haggard, who handled both transactions. Seely & McDonald will spend about \$15,000 renovating the present buildings on the site and in construction of new buildings.

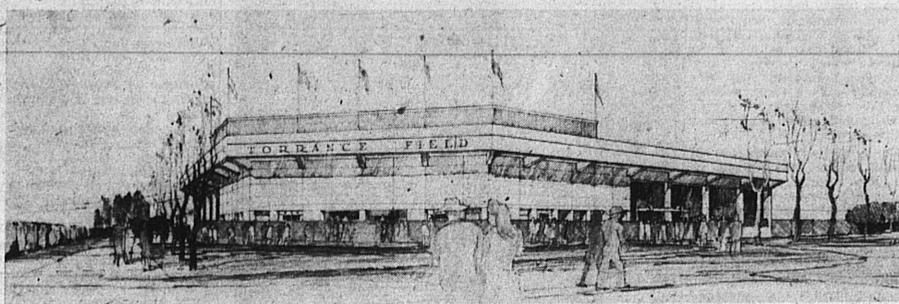
Robert Nell, of Long Beach, manufacturer of Amber Lion hair tonic, purchased approximately one and one-half acres of land adjoining the Seely & McDonald site and already has broken ground on a \$15,000 factory building which will give employment to 12 persons. The firm has been operating in Long Beach for many years, and the Torrance property sold for \$9,000. Larrance also owned this tract of land.

Food Stores, Banks, Public Offices Closed Monday

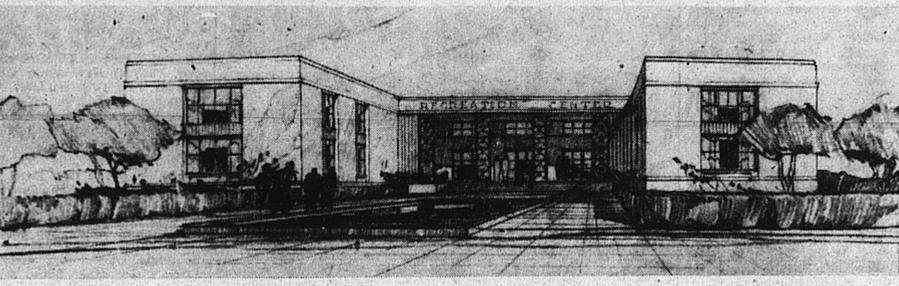
The only retail stores in Torrance and Lomita which plan to close for the Armistice Day holiday, Monday, Nov. 12, are the food markets, according to a late survey made Wednesday afternoon. Housewives are urged to make sufficient food purchases this weekend to carry them over until Tuesday morning. However, practically all other retail stores will be open as usual on Monday.

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PROPOSED STADIUM AT BALL PARK . . . The people of Torrance will have a chance soon to decide whether or not they want a stadium such as the one pictured above built at Torrance ball park. Drawn by A. R. Walker & Associates, the structure is designed to accommodate several thousand persons and it can be enlarged without changing the general appearance. The City Council is considering placing the stadium on the ballot with other needed buildings to provide postwar employment. The present grandstand is much too small and badly in need of repair. The new stadium probably would attract a major league baseball winter camp to Torrance, it is said.



TORRANCE RECREATION BUILDING . . . Urgently needed to provide a center of recreation for youngsters and oldsters of Torrance, this building has been designed by A. R. Walker & Associates for the city for submission to the people in a bond election to be held in the near future. The building will house various recreation activities for central Torrance, and will be so designed that a swimming pool may be added.

Sale Of Bus Line Hit In Court Decision

The City of Torrance, its mayor and members of its City Council Thursday were ordered to comply with Act 5203 in a proposed sale involving the operation of Torrance Municipal Bus lines.

William J. B. Hughes, brought the action charging the defendants, in negotiating sale of the transportation line with Charles F. Koors, a private contractor, did not proceed in accordance with the law.

To accomplish the sale, the court holds the City Council must first pass a resolution by a two-thirds vote of its members that public interest and necessity demands that such public utility should be sold, and then the proposition must be submitted to the voters. Superior Judge Henry M. Willis heard the action.

"The City Council of Torrance is not complying with or acting under the California statute in its proceedings to effect a sale as described in the contract and as shown in the minutes authorizing such a sale and the execution of the contract," the judge ruled in granting a permanent writ of mandate against the city and its officials.

Citing first the provisions of the State Constitution which permits cities to set up public utilities such as bus lines, and then the Act 5203 adopted in 1921 for the sale of public utilities, the court holds that the bus line being sold to Koors is a public utility, contrary to the claims of City Attorney J. E. McCall.

McCall had alleged that the city was selling personal property and not a public utility in disposing of the lines.

Judge Willis, in his opinion, said: "Patently the City Council of Torrance is not complying with or acting under the above statute in its proceedings to effect a sale as described in the contract and as shown in the minutes authorizing such a sale and the execution of the contract. In explanation the city asserts that it is not selling or offering for sale a public utility embracing its bus line or transportation system, but only certain personal property used or useful in the conduct of such bus line and comprising its rolling stock and equipment."

"This requires an answer to the question: What constitutes the 'public utility' owned and operated by the City of Torrance under the name of Torrance Municipal Bus line?" Here the court cites definitions of "public utility" given in Webster's, to uphold its contention, and then continues: "Thus we note that the business of supplying transportation

(Continued on Page 4-A)

McCall's Resignation and Change in Control of Bus Dept. May Be Demanded

Demands for the resignation of City Attorney John E. McCall and for transfer of the bus department from the control of the City Council to a "non-political commission" will be made at the City Council meeting next Tuesday night, it was reported yesterday.

Instigators of the movement demanding the action are said to be those who backed the recent lawsuit to require the city to sell its bus line in accordance with provisions of Act 5203, if it sells the lines at all. Headed by W. J. B. Hughes, they oppose the sale, although their contention that the city should first adopt a resolution of intention to sell and then refer it to the people for a vote was upheld in Superior court.

McCall's resignation as city attorney will be demanded because of the asserted improper advice he gave the city regarding the sale of the lines. He has maintained that since the line consists only of personal property and was formed by a vote of the City Council that it could be sold by a vote of the council. The council voted 3 to 2, Councilmen N. H. Cucci and G. J. Powell opposing, to sell the lines to Charles F. Koors for \$65,000.

Meanwhile, the City Council, Tuesday night probably will vote to appeal the decision of the court on the issue.

Asked if he felt there are grounds for appeal, Mayor W. H. Tolson replied, "Absolutely, and while I have not yet talked to Councilman Hitchcock and Gilbert, we probably will appeal the case." The case eventually would go to the Supreme court, it was said, since the decision of the court is the first one of its type and amounts to "making law." The decision of the court is reported elsewhere in this edition of the Torrance Herald.

Who would constitute the "non-political commission" to run the bus lines was not determined, but gossip around the city hall said that probably members of the Municipal Ownership League would seek control of the lines.

The council, as long as the 3 to 2 split stands, probably will take control from Councilman Cucci, who has been supervising the bus department as chairman of the transportation committee of the council. It was indicated that Councilman Gilbert will be asked to assume the chairmanship of the bus department.

Manager C. Z. Ward has been on a virtual "sitdown strike" in protest against the interference of Cucci with the operation of the department, it was said.

The appeal of the city from the decision of the Superior court probably will require many months to settle.

It was pointed out that the city may have to deal in the courts again with Koors and his interests if the deal, which now is in escrow, is not consummated. Authorities said that he has the right to recover damages against the city in event the sale is not concluded.

Contributions of all amounts will be accepted at local headquarters in the Torrance Service Center, 1339 Post ave.

TWO TORRANCE AIRPORTS SEEN AS MARINE HEROES BUY LAND, FORM COMPANY

Torrance will have two airports. This was revealed yesterday as two outstanding heroes of the U.S. Marines, Col. William J. Fox and Major Joe Foss announced the incorporation of Community Airports, Inc., and the purchase of more than 40 acres of land in Torrance to be the base of operations for the corporation which will run a string of flying fields throughout the west.

While giving Torrance its second airport, a distinction few cities enjoy, the organization meeting of Community Airports, Inc., marked the formation of a new enterprise for Southern California.

The land purchased is at Prairie ave. and Redondo Beach Blvd. Torrance's original airport is the Army-founded sub-base of March field on 101 highway between Walteria and Lomita, control and operation of which still is unsettled.

Community Airports, Inc., filed articles of incorporation in Sacramento Oct. 29, and in Los Angeles County Oct. 24. Further filings are contemplated as the activities of the company extend into other counties.

The company is incorporated for two and one half million dollars, and is formed for the purpose primarily of operating a chain of landing fields for the accommodation of privately owned airplanes and the giving of flight instruction.

Col. Fox will head the new corporation, having been elected as its president at the organization meeting. Other officers named were Major Joseph J. Foss as vice-president, Floyd A. Walker as secretary and Charles Patten Dickinson as treasurer.

Col. Fox and Major Foss are both well known in aviation circles. Col. Fox of the United States Marines was in charge of laying out airports in the South Pacific, having had supervision of Henderson Field for a considerable period of time. Prior to his entering the armed forces he was head of the Building and Safety and the Regional Planning Departments of the County of Los Angeles. Major Foss, also of the Marines, was an outstanding ace of World War II, being the first pilot in the South Pacific to equal the record of Captain Rickenbacker made in the first World War. Floyd A. Walker is an attorney and for eighteen years was identified with the Security First National Bank of Los Angeles as an officer in its head office Trust Department. Charles Patten Dickinson is a lawyer.

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Ben Weston, president of the firm, has renounced his interest in the field and has expressed hope that the city will take over the field.

Military and civilian aviation authorities have declared that Torrance airport is one of the finest in the west, with its long runway, consistent wind, freedom from fog and freedom from interference with operations of other airports.

Of this figure it was found that 372 are adults and some 250 are employable.

It was further learned that 158 units were available of which 141 are occupied along with 52 of the 100 trailers recently located there.

An interview with Marsteller Tuesday evening revealed that after the bandages were removed on that day, some sight did exist in the eye which prompted hope that full sight would return. He revealed that he was to have started his first day's work as a civilian on the day following the assault.

Torrance police reported that Marsteller, recently returned from action overseas, had been clubbed with a piece of 2x4 wood nearly two feet in length. Suspects are narrowing down in the case and an arrest may be made very soon, they said.

More Than 250 Japanese Here Said Employable

Reports originating from the office of the War Relocation Center at the Lomita Flight Strip show more than 174 families, comprising 718 persons are now being housed there.

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(Continued on Page 4-A)

Condition Of Downtown Lots Hit

Debris covering lots and alleys in the downtown district drew complaint of the board of directors of Torrance Chamber of Commerce Monday.

A letter was ordered written to the City Council complaining of the papers, cans and other debris scattered over areas in the business district. The chamber will ask that the proper city department be requested to see that the lots are cleared.

New members of the chamber announced at the Monday meeting are Ed Schwartz, 1505 Cabrillo ave., and Herb Kelly, 1618 Cravens ave.

Small Girl Injured When Hit By Auto

Three-year-old Mary Rasmussen, 2471 Torrance Blvd., was reported by Torrance police to have been injured when struck by a car driven by Arthur C. Webb, Los Angeles attorney, Nov. 3 while crossing an alley near her home.

Webb stated to police that he was coming out of the alley on to Torrance Blvd. when the accident occurred and did not see the child, nor did he know that he had struck her until attention was called to it by a witness.

Police said that Webb stopped immediately and indicated that the speed of his auto was not in excess of the law. The girl was treated at the Torrance Memorial hospital and later released. Webb was not held.

"Although we are farther along than we were a week ago," says Chairman Johnson, "we are still a long way from filling our quota. We need the cooperation of every volunteer and every resident of Torrance to carry through this job as we have always done."

Contributions of all amounts will be accepted at local headquarters in the Torrance Service Center, 1339 Post ave.

Victory Chest Collections Show Gain

Victory Chest collections in Torrance began picking up this week as Chairman George Johnson announced Tuesday noon that collections had reached \$7,184, or 18 per cent of the goal of \$41,000.

Residential divisions have gone well over their quota, thanks to the efforts of Reverend B. H. Lingenfelter, colonel for residential and his workers, including Mrs. George L. Johnson, who had charge of battalion A; Mrs. Edith White, in charge of battalion B; Mrs. Clare C. Farrell, battalion C, and first over the top; and Mrs. E. G. Spratt, battalion F.

Mrs. Barbara Taraldson, working in the Walteria district, received more contributions than has any worker in that area in previous years.

Special gifts collections led by Rev. Paul Wheeler and Mrs. Grace Stewart are proceeding on schedule, and collections in the business district, sparked by Miss Dorothy Reddington, have been good. Establishments contributions are lagging far behind, although Vice-chairman James L. Lynch is exerting every effort to bring in his quota.

Invaluable help in all divisions is being given by M. T. Bewley, Boy Scouts officer, and Ted Meier, of the YMCA.

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(Continued on Page 4-A)

Doris Watson Resigns Selective Service Post

Chief Clerk of Torrance Selective Service Board since July, 1942, Mrs. Doris Watson of 1225 Cota ave., has resigned and was succeeded by Mrs. Naomi Bonnell, of 815 Madrid ave.

Mrs. John W. Armstrong, of 1218 Amalapa ave., has been appointed assistant clerk. Mrs. Carol Brown, of 1008 Crenshaw Blvd., who has been serving as clerical assistant for the past several years, will continue her duties with the board.

Police Spurred In Search For Vet's Assailant

Torrance police are continuing their search for the assailant who attacked Fred Marsteller, 1314 Amalapa ave., on the night of Oct. 31. Reports were that Marsteller had gone outside his home to investigate a noise. He noted a group of boys running toward him and a neighbor, Carl Joyce, giving chase to the group. Marsteller, World War II veteran, said that the next thing he was conscious of was being in the Torrance Memorial hospital where doctors stated that he had perhaps lost the sight of his right eye.

Torrance police reported that Marsteller, recently returned from action overseas, had been clubbed with a piece of 2x4 wood nearly two feet in length. Suspects are narrowing down in the case and an arrest may be made very soon, they said.

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(Continued on Page 4-A)

Ask the Professor

(By H. F. Noake)

Dear Professor: Does your wife choose your clothes?
Answer: No, brother, she just picks the pockets.